

AND THEATRICAL AND MUSICAL REVIEW

PRICE ONE PENNY.

KNURR AND SPELL

R. D. SCRATTON, ESQ., MASTER OF THE ESSEX UNION AND SOUTH ESSEX
FOXHOUNDS.

[illegible]

and the SCARBOROUGH GRAND ANNUAL OPEN STEEPLE CHASE HANDICAP. Three miles and a half.

CRICKET.

THE GREAT CRICKETERS OF
ENGLAND.

WRITTEN EXPRESSLY FOR THE "ILLUSTRATED SPORTING NEWS."

The cricketers of England,
What noble souls are they,
As frank and free as men can be,
On this big ball o' clay.—OLD S

As, just now, there is a temporary lull in cricketing matters, and as, a very few days ago, I was passing into the full meridian of the season's glory, a peculiarly fine, and, I believe, a very rare, specimen of the style, more, I think, doubtless, to be read with great interest. It has been of good cricketers, and that of late years the number of good cricketers has been very large indeed; so large, in fact, that this is the first time in my memory that I have become—have very frequently found it extremely difficult in selecting their players. And it is not only in general public, but even in the ranks of personal merit, civility, good behaviour, sobriety, and general public, are always chosen in preference to superior ability. I have seen many a player, who, like a bull-dog's surliness, those hibiscus proclivities, and that bullying bravado, which, I am sorry to say, are not confined to the lower ranks of the game. Modesty, quietness, a humble consciousness even in inferiority, are qualities which gentlemen and the public generally, and I am very sorry to say, the press, prize either with the bat or ball; and I have no hesitation with a fair personal appeal to even moderate ability, chance of succeeding in the cricket-field now-a-days, and that, I think, is the only way in which a sharper eye or a firmer nerve, may be possessed of the practice of the noble game, is yet disfigured by which I have referred. It is not the disqualification to which life a man may be placed—be he a foul or a modest, obliging behaviour, without steadiness, whose. What numbers of cricketers could I name dragged them from the pinnacle and avenger—have their profession, and they have gone back into the most minds most eventually sunk.

All aspirants to cricket fame, as in everything else, must be prepared to sacrifice to the demand at all times, and if they take pattern from the example I may I am now about to describe, they will not do

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William Mortlock, who hails from Surrey, has lately won the distinguished appellation of "Stonewall" in consequence of his really magnificent batting, one of the finest tests a man can possibly enjoy is to see Mortlock bat against fine bowling—Tarrant, Jackson, Wooton, like Hodson, for instance. His defence is magnificent, if anything, flavouring too much of the old school, but safe and sure as death itself. Mortlock, too, can hit; he drives "straight on" very heavily, indeed, and he hits to leg superbly. His "cutting" is not distinguished by

any super-excellence, although he has been known to make some very brilliant off-drives. As a bowler, "Stonewall" does not shine. He has been known, it is true, to chuck lobs, something like Lockyer's, but he only does this when all the other bowlers are beaten or used up. As a "fielder," Mortlock is exceedingly smart and agile—a statement which is proved by the fact that he is invariably the Surrey long-stop.

by the fact that he invariably the Surrey long-staple batsman, and a very good one at that. The oblong cricket I ever met, is more distinguished as a bowler than as a batsman. He is, however, very clever as a "bat," and has frequently rendered great service to his county (Kent) in that capacity. But he is very fast, and very true, with a fine spin from the off-side of the wicket, he was at one time, and is now, by some excellent judges, considered the best—absolutely the best—oblong bowler in the world. I have never seen this bowler from the truth. Last season he was not quite so destructive to batsmen, but in '60, '61, and '62 his average was hardly ever surpassed. He is very clever and a very good batsman, and his temper as important as the fact that he is a Jew. I am sorry to hear that he is in his company. He is a credit to English cricketers, and I am only sorry that captious objections to his religion, in which he declares his balls should have been thrown, have prevented him from accompanying the English Eleven, to Australia.

I must now draw this article to a close. In my next I shall speak of Carpenter, Hayward, R. Daff, George Parr, and Anderson.

CRICKETER.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY CLUB
MATCHES, 1864.

THE new county has come into being with its maiden list of fixtures, which comprised less than ten matches, beginning with the most commendable of all, viz.—a "caterer with the colts." It enters the lists with a flourish, and, as a matter of fact, the "caterer" (home-and-home), though long known, has not before this as a county, but we presume the eleventh will be equalled by Thomas and George Hearne (who are both leading players in the county) and the Marlborough and Ground, the Charterhouse, and the Marlborough Club complete the programme. We are glad to be able to state that the club progresses most favourably, although mistaken if the "Middie" as it is called, does not very soon rank amongst the leading counties of England.—

May 5 and 6, at Islington, Eleven Colts of Middlesex
v. Eleven Gentlemen of the Club.
May 17 and 18, at Islington, Eleven Gentlemen of
the Club v. Sixteen of the Club.
June 2 and 3, at Newport Pagnell, Middlesex v.

June 6, 7, and 8, at Islington, Middlesex v. Sussex.

June 15, at Islington, Middlesex Club v. Charterhouse.

July 1, at Islington, Middlesex Club v. Civil Service.
July 25 and 26, at Lord's, Middlesex v. Marylebone

August 1 and 2, at Islington, Middlesex v. Maryle-

August 4 and 5, at Islington, Middlesex v. Backs (to

August 15, 16, and 17, at Brighton, Middlesex v. Sussex.

August 15, 16, and 17, at Brighton, Middlesex v. Sussex (return).

PROPOSED RULES

1. The affairs of the club shall be managed by a committee consisting of the president, two vice-presidents,

ry, and not more than

treasurer, secretary, and not more than twenty other members, five of whom shall form a quorum, to be elected annually at a general meeting, which shall be

2. The committee shall have full power to arrange

2. The committee shall have full power to arrange matches and select the eleven to play in them. The secretary shall keep minutes of the club meetings and

a book to be called "The Match Fund Book," for the purpose of entering any extra contributions that may

the expenses of matches, and also a "General Account" open for inspection at all meetings.

may appoint a sub-committee of members resident in the county to assist them in carrying out the objects of the

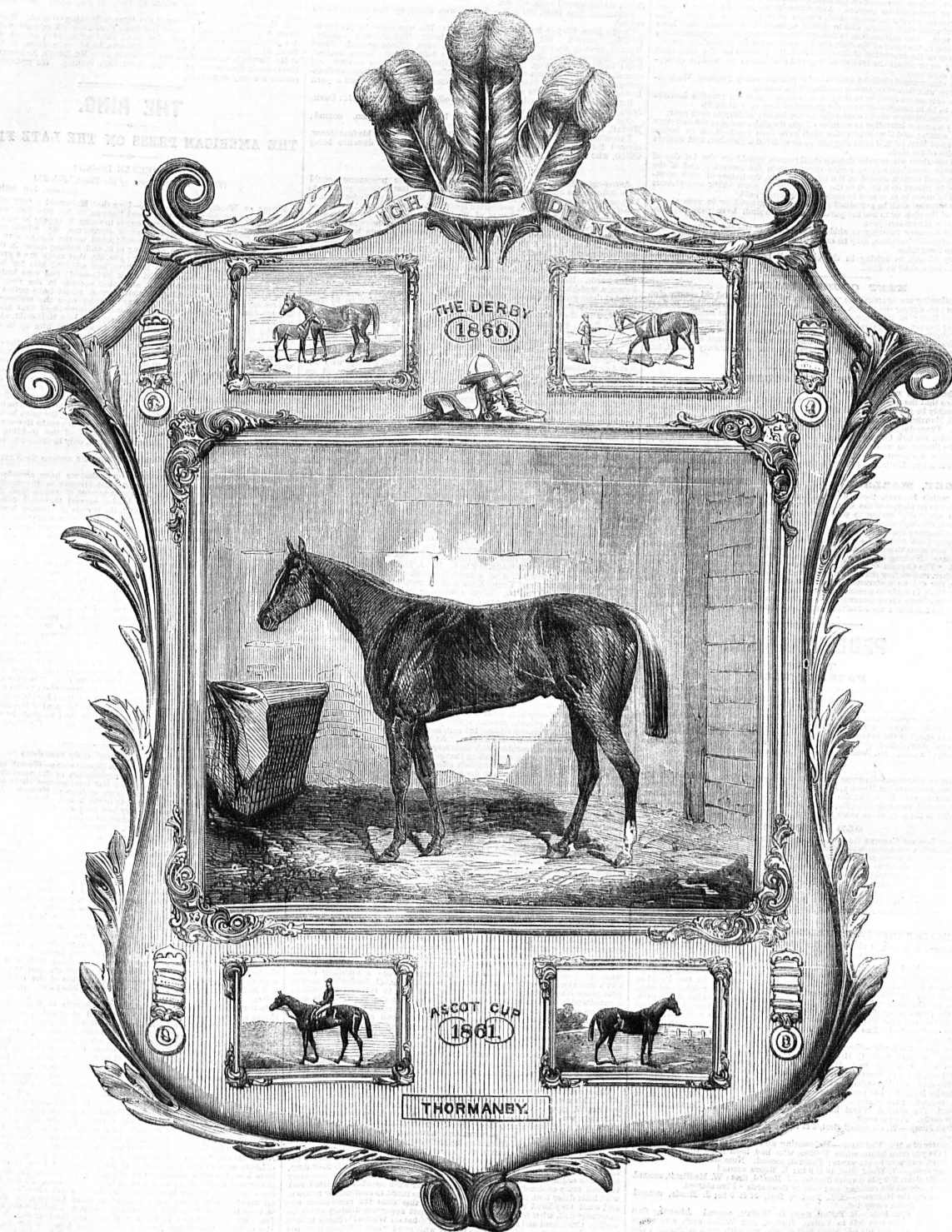
ers, not on the committee, shall be annually appointed to the preceding year.



MR. J. CHAMBERS, MANAGER OF THE CAMBRIDGE ATHLETIC SPORTS, AND MR. KOTZE,
WINNER OF THE POLE JUMP PRIZE.



JENNER'S GROUNDS, CAMBRIDGE,
AND MR. KOTZE'S WINNING LEAP AT THE UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC SPORTS MEETING.



THORMANBY,
THE PROPERTY OF JAMES MERRY, ESQ.

